

BELIEVE

LEVITIC: THE STORY OF THE BIRDS  
TO BECOME LIKE JESUS



ETERNITY  
I believe there is a heaven and a hell  
and that Jesus will return to judge all people  
and to establish his eternal kingdom.

John 14:1-9



## OPEN DOORS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### WELLS CAMPUS

595 1st Ave SW, Wells, MN 56097  
507-553-5453 | [opendoorsumc@bevcomm.net](mailto:opendoorsumc@bevcomm.net)  
Worship: 9:30 am | Coffee: 9:00 & 10:30 am

### KIESTER CAMPUS

116 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Kiester, MN 56051  
507-294-3300  
Worship: 11:00 am | Coffee: 10:00 am

Pastor: Chris Leistra | Office Phone: 507-553-5453;  
Cell Phone: 920-765-3665 | Email: [pastorumc@bevcomm.net](mailto:pastorumc@bevcomm.net) | Web Site: [www.opendoorsumc.org](http://www.opendoorsumc.org)

June 18, 2023 – Pentecost 3

Please turn off or silence your cell phone.

*Loving God, I pray today for all fathers and father-figures enjoying this day, and for anyone finding this a tough day. May everyone know you as the good and gracious Father of us all.*

### – Gathering in Faith –

*Gathering Music*

*Welcome & Announcements*

#### \* Call to Worship

\* Song "Jesus Shall Reign" #157, vs. 1 & 2

**ALL:** We praise You, Lord, for all you have given us—life, work, family, love. All good gifts come from you, and we praise and worship you in this place, at this hour.

\* Song "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus" #349

Leader: Welcome, you who are called as disciples of Christ! Is anything too wonderful for our God?

**People:** Nothing is too wonderful for God who saves us and calls us!

Leader: We remember the goodness of God who promised Abraham a multitude of descendants and then showed up at Abraham's door to announce that the promise would be fulfilled.

**People:** Nothing is too wonderful for God who promises and fulfills promises!

Leader: We remember the compassion of Jesus who noticed the distress of his neighbors and acted to bring them healing and wholeness.

**People:** Nothing is too wonderful for God who heals and restores the distressed!

Leader: We remember the invitation the Spirit extends to us to join in God's work of compassionate community building.

**People:** Nothing is too wonderful for God who empowers us to transform strangers into community through active love.

Leader: As we worship, may we receive the promise, the compassion, and the invitation to be disciples of Christ who join in God's work of making disciples for the transformation of our households, our community, and our world.

**People:** Because nothing is too wonderful for our God! Amen.

\* Song "How Great Is Our God" on screen (#3003)

#### \* Passing the Peace of Christ

*Opportunities to Serve*

*Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer*

### – Hearing Our Faith Story –

*Children's Moment* "Elijah Goes to Heaven" *Believe Storybook*  
(2 Kings 2:1-17)

*Scripture Lessons* Revelation 21:1-7, 22:1-5 (NRSV)  
1 Corinthians 15:42-44

<i>Response</i>	"Soon and Very Soon"	#706
* <i>Gospel Lesson</i>	John 14:1-27 (NRSV)	
<i>Sermon</i>	"Eternity" <i>Believe</i> , Chapter 10	Pastor Christopher Leistra
<i>Message Response</i>	"We Are Marching"	#2235B

**– Stewards of Faith –**

*Giving with a Thankful Heart*  
*Offering our Gifts for Ministry*  
*Offertory Music (as we present our gifts for ministry)*

- \* *Doxology* #95
- \* *Prayer of Thanksgiving*
- \* *Prayer of Thanksgiving for Fathers (unison)*

Loving God, we give thanks for the men of virtue who have touched our lives. Those who have shown us kindness, courage, generosity, truth, compassion, faith, and love. Bless all sons and brothers and fathers and grandfathers who reveal a glimpse of your loving presence on earth. Amen.

**– Sending Forth –**

- \* *Benediction*
- \* *Hymn of Going Forth* "I'll Fly Away" #2282
- \* *Postlude – The Church Scatters for Ministry . . .*

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**A blessed** third Sunday after Pentecost to all, and Happy Father's Day to dads and father-figures. Welcome to worship! You're invited to stay after worship for coffee and listen and ask questions as Pastor Chris talks about Annual Conference.

**The nursery** is available for parents to use during worship on Sunday mornings. The nursery is on the south side of the entryway next to the restroom. The TV may be turned on to watch the service.

**Keep in your prayers this week:** Pray for God's blessings on congregations and their ministers in our United Methodist connection as they say good-bye at the end of their appointments and embrace new faces and places in the coming days. RJ Fordham for healing of his hip; Alan Yokieli; all others who are dealing with health issues; for the people and work of Red Bird Mission; all those grieving, hurting, and lonely; all those struggling with challenging life situations; the victims of natural disasters all around the world; all those serving in the military and their families.

**Announcements**

**Join Pastor Chris in the Hospitality Room today after worship for an informational meeting about Annual Conference.**

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**The *Believe* Study and Coffee with Pastor Chris** will meet at The Bean this Tuesday, June 20. The study is from 9:00-10:00 am and Coffee with the Pastor from 10-11am. *All are welcome!*



**SERVANT WEDNESDAY**

**More Servants needed!** One Wednesday a month during the summer will be designated as Servant Wednesday. If anyone has any work projects at their home that they would like to have done but need help with, we will do our best to line people up to do that for you. And if there are any men, women, or youth who would like to work together to do these projects, let us know. The work will be done in the evenings, from 6:00 to dark. The dates are June 21, July 26, and August 16. Contact John Kruse at 507-995-1224 or the church office at 507-553-5453 if you have projects you would like to have done **or if you would like to be on a Serve Team.**

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**Looking for someone with a van or pick-up** who could bring a treadle sewing machine to Hope UMC in Blue Earth. Would need help loading at Frank & Sue McKeehan's home in Wells and possibly unloading at Hope UMC. Anytime this summer would be fine. Thank you to Sue and Frank for donating this machine!

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**Graduation Reception:** Hunter Bruckhoff will be honored at a graduation reception on Saturday, June 24, from 3-7pm at his home at 59495 140<sup>th</sup> St., Wells. His church family is invited.

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**Farewell to Fred Vanderwerf** and his Administrative Assistant, Cheryl Daschner! Say goodbye to our District Superintendent Fred Vanderwerf, and say hello to incoming DS Woojae Im at The Picklebarn in Mankato (90 Power Dr, Mankato, MN 56001). You're invited to come and even try a game or two of pickleball! Rev. Woojae Im begins his new position as our DS on July 1.

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**Kickball & Bonfire** – All youth going into grades 6-12, plus graduated seniors, are invited to a fun night of kickball and a bonfire in the backyard of Josh & Megan Edwards this Friday, June 23, from 6:30-9:00pm. Edwards' live at 423 3rd St SW, Wells.

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**Enjoy Fly-In Drive-In Breakfast** at Wells Airport, Sunday June 25, 7am to noon. Pancakes, French toast, eggs, coffee, juice, and milk. Airplane rides available.

**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

**Sunday, June 18**

- W 9:00am Worship
- 10:00am Coffee
- 10:00am Annual Meeting Talk

**Monday, June 19**

Newsletter deadline

**Tuesday, June 20**

- 9-11am Coffee & Study with Pastor at The Bean
- W 1:00pm Painting class
- 1:00pm Wells Area Ministerial meeting
- 5:45pm Praise Team

**Wednesday, June 21**

- W 9:30am Staff meeting
- 9:00am Community prayer
- 10:00am Community Bible study
- 6:00-dark Servant Wednesday

**Thursday, June 22**

- W 10:00am Caregiver Support Group

**Friday, June 23**

- 6:30pm The WAY Kickball & Bonfire at Edwards's home

**Sunday, June 25**

- W 9:00am Worship
- 10:00am Coffee

**WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

Pastor.....Rev. Christopher Leistra  
Organists..... Jan Johanson  
Scripture Reader .....Sherry Asmus  
Offering..... 2 volunteers, please  
A/V.....Kaylynn Healey  
Projection..... Martin Healey

**Birthdays This Week:**

June 19.....Pat Coy, Duane Johnson, Chuck Fuller  
June 20.....Lea Lamphier, Jason Petersen  
June 22.....Lorraine Thisius  
June 23.....Irene Bathke  
June 25.....Ben Musser, Jr.

**Cable Schedule of Wells' Sunday Service:**

Tuesday: 11:00 am & 8:00 pm (Bevcomm ch 990)  
Friday: 6:00 pm (Bevcomm ch 990)

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

The church survey we conducted this spring revealed that the majority of responders wanted to see our church grow, particularly the children & youth programs, but improvement was needed.

We held a meeting last week about childhood education for the fall and we are definitely looking at making some changes. We're looking at moving classes to Wednesdays, either right after school (3:15) or right after supper (6:00 - supper will be served at church from 5-6 and hopefully we have cooks for each week – another opportunity to serve! ☺); and a possible 1-room multi-age class on Sundays after church.

To make this next year's Christian Ed the best possible for our children, we need your help. We will need around 6 adults or older youth to volunteer as teachers & helpers, but we want to

know what time would be best for our volunteers – Wed. afternoon, Wed. evening, or Sunday morning – and based on your responses, program planning will proceed for the time slot when we have an adequate number of leaders. It is a commitment of a few hours a week, but it can make a big impact on a kid’s life to have you share the Gospel and some of yourself with them.

Jesus said the harvest is great, but the workers are few ... can you be a worker? Let us know what time or times work for you.

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**Yes, I care about our children and want to see our church grow!**

I can volunteer during the following times:

*Please check as many as possible, as planning will proceed for the time slot where we have the greatest number of leaders available.*

- 3:30-5:00pm Wednesday Classroom
- 6:30-7:30pm Wednesday Classroom
- 3:00-3:30pm Wednesday Snack Server
- 10:00-11:00am Sunday Classroom (multi-age) this
- I can’t commit to a full year, but I can teach from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ during day & time (pick from times above): \_\_\_\_\_
- I will pray for Open Doors to develop a successful children’s ministry, for leaders to step forward, and for the children to come. I pray that each child has the opportunity to grow their faith and to lead others.

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

Send/Text/Email/Bring to Open Doors. May be placed in offering plate.